

December

05

>> Thai National Day celebrations

Today (December 5) is one of the most auspicious days for the Thai nations. Not only is it the Thai National Day, which falls on the date each year, it is also King Bhumibol Adulyadej's 84th Birthday Anniversary.

Attaining the age 84 marks the end of the seventh 12-year cycle of a person's life, which Thai people consider as an auspicious age.

King Bhumibol Adulyadej was born on December 5, 1927 in Cambridge, Massachusetts, as HRH Prince Bhumibol Adulyadej. The Prince is the youngest son of the Mahidol Royal Family.



>> 'Merciless Monstrous Hunter' launches

December

06

An anthology entitled 'Merciless Monstrous Hunter' written by Dharma Kaviraj will be launched tomorrow (December 6) at 9 am at the auditorium of Samudra Devi

Balika Vidyalaya, Ambatale (situated at the Colombo - Avissawella road)

The author of the anthology Dharma Kaviraj is a retired English lecturer and linguist who has served at many educational institutions and in addition a lyric writer. The forward of the anthology is written by eminent educationist Ranjith Weeraratne. The following guest speakers will grace the occasion. A Meththananda, Ranjith Weeraratne, Tennyson Perera, Kamal Perera and several other speakers will also address.

All are invited by the Writers Association of Lanka.

>> 'Balloth ekka be' final show

December

08

'Balloth ekka be', the most popular stage drama written and directed by Ravindra Ariyaratne will stage the final Colombo show for this year on Thursday (December 8) at 3.30 pm and 6.45 pm at the air conditioned New Town Hall in Colombo 7 (near John De Silva theatre).



>> An exhibition of digital copies of Tagore paintings

December

08

Celebrating 150th Birth Anniversary of Nobel Laureate Rabindranath Tagore

To mark the 150th birth anniversary of Nobel Laureate Gurudev Rabindranath Tagore, the Indian Cultural Centre is organising an exhibition of digital re-prints

of Tagore paintings titled 'Artist Rabindranath Tagore'. The exhibition will be open till Thursday (December 8) at J.D.A Perera Gallery, 46 Horton Place Colombo 7 from 11 a.m to 7 p.m

For further details please contact the Indian Cultural Centre on Telephone No: 2684698 and Email: iccrco-lombo@gmail.com.



Cultural Diary

Compiled by SARASHI SAMARASINGHE

This week's 'Cultural Diary' brings you details about several other fascinating events happening in the city. Take your pick of stage plays, exhibitions or dance performance and add colour to your routine life. You can make merry and enjoy the adventures or sit back, relax and enjoy a movie of your choice. Make a little space to kick into high gear amid the busy work schedules to enjoy the exciting events happening at venues around the city. If there is an event you would like others to know, drop an email to eventcalendar25@gmail.com (Please be mindful to send only the essential details). Have a pleasant week.

>> SUN FM Presents Arash Live in Concert

December

09

Keep December 9 free, when SUN FM presents Arash LIVE in concert at the Excel World at 8 pm. Arash's concert promises to wow audiences, as he performs alongside Rebecca, a stunning female vocalist and backed by the full band.

Receiving many accolades and recognition from top global entities, Arash was recently named Sweden's most successful debut artist in 2005 at the International Music Market in Cannes, France. His first smash hit, 'Boro Boro' was featured in the Bollywood blockbuster 'BluffMaster'.

Sports Illustrated tabbed his FIFA World Cup ballad 'an ode to his native country's national soccer team' as one of the top three such songs of the year, a distinction shared by pop musician Ricky Martin a few years earlier. In 2006, he won two Grammys in Russia and was recognised as the top import artist in all of Russia.

In 2008, he released Donya 'The Album' with the singles 'Donya' a duet with Shaggy, 'Pure Love' a duet with Helena and in 2009 he participated in Eurovision 'The World's Biggest Music Competition' where he landed third place.



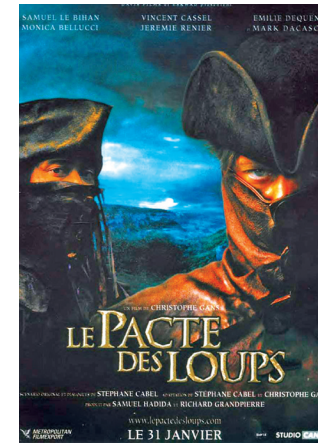
Big screen

American Centre movies theme: 'Fantasies' this month

Inception Inception (2010) will be screened on December 6 at 6pm at the American Centre, No 44, Galle Road, Colombo 3. (Running Time: 148 minutes) Leonardo DiCaprio stars in Christopher Nolan's mind-bending science fiction heist movie. DiCaprio and his team enter people's dreams to steal their trade secrets, but is it possible to go into somebody's dream and plant a memory? Reality quickly becomes a slippery concept as they delve deeper into the subconscious. Seating is limited and is first-come, first-served.

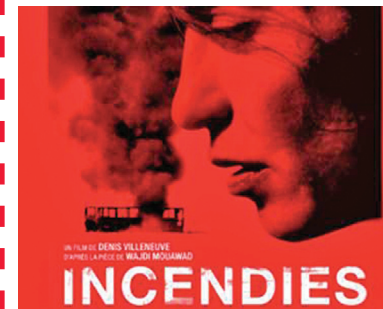
Le Pacte des loups

The movie, Le Pacte des loups (2001) by Christophe Gans will be screened on Tuesday, December 6 at 3pm and Wednesday, December 7 at 6.30pm at Alliance Française de Colombo, 11, Barnes Place, Colombo 7. In 1765 something was stalking the mountains of central France. A 'beast' that pounced on humans and animals with terrible ferocity. Indeed the beast became so notorious that the king of France dispatched envoys to find out what was happening and to kill the creature. By the end, the beast of Gevaudan had killed over 100 people, to this day, no one is entirely sure what it was, wolf? hyena? or something supernatural? The movie is most suitable for mature audience and is subtitled in English.



600 kilos d'or pur (In Gold we trust)

600 kilos d'or pur (In Gold we trust)-aventure (2011) by Eric Besnard will be screened on December 9 at 6 pm at the Alliance Française de Kotte, 139, Jawatte Road, Colombo 5. (Running Time: 96 minutes) A group of four men and two women make off with 600 kilograms of 'pure gold' ingots in Guyana. When their helicopter crashes in the jungle, the weight becomes a burden to carry in this hostile environment. The forest, climate, insects, fatigue and pressure from prosecutors make their journey long and the gold fever threatens the cohesion of the group...



Incendies

Incendies (2010) by Denis Villeneuve will be screened on Wednesday, December 7 at 2.30pm and 5.30pm at the International Centre for Ethnic Studies (ICES) Auditorium, 2, Kynsey Terrace, Colombo 8 (Running Time: 130 minutes) Incendies is a Quebec film written and directed by Denis Villeneuve. Adapted from Wajdi Mouawad's play, Scorched, Incendies follows the journey of twin brother and sister as they attempt to unravel the mystery of their mother's life. A beautifully filmed and movingly performed drama which explores how personal motives breed political radicalism.

Invictus

Invictus (2009) by Clint Eastwood will be screened on Thursday, December 8 at 2.30pm and 5.30pm at the International Centre for Ethnic Studies (ICES) Auditorium, 2, Kynsey Terrace, Colombo 8 (Running Time: 134 minutes) Actor Morgan Freeman portrays anti-apartheid activist and former South African president Nelson Mandela in this Clint Eastwood-helmed political drama adapted from author John Carlin's book 'Playing the Enemy: Nelson Mandela and the Game That Changed a Nation'. Set just after the fall of apartheid and during Mandela's first term in office.

The Whistleblower

The Whistleblower (2010) by Larysa Kondracki will be screened on Friday, December 9 at 2.30pm and 5.30pm at the International Centre for Ethnic Studies (ICES) Auditorium, 2, Kynsey Terrace, Colombo 8 (Running Time: 111 minutes) A political thriller based on the experiences of Kathryn Bolkovac, (Rachel Weisz) an American police officer who takes a job working as a peacekeeper in post-war Bosnia. Her expectations of helping to rebuild a devastated country are dashed when she uncovers a dangerous reality of corruption, cover-up and intrigue amid a world of private contractors.

Chandani: The Daughter of the Elephant Whisperer

Chandani: The Daughter of the Elephant Whisperer (2010) moderated by Anoma Rajakaruna will be screened on Wednesday, December 7 at 5.30 pm at the Goethe hall, 39, Gregory's Road, Colombo 7. It is a German Academy award winning documentary on a 16 year old Sri Lankan girl, who wants to become a mahout.